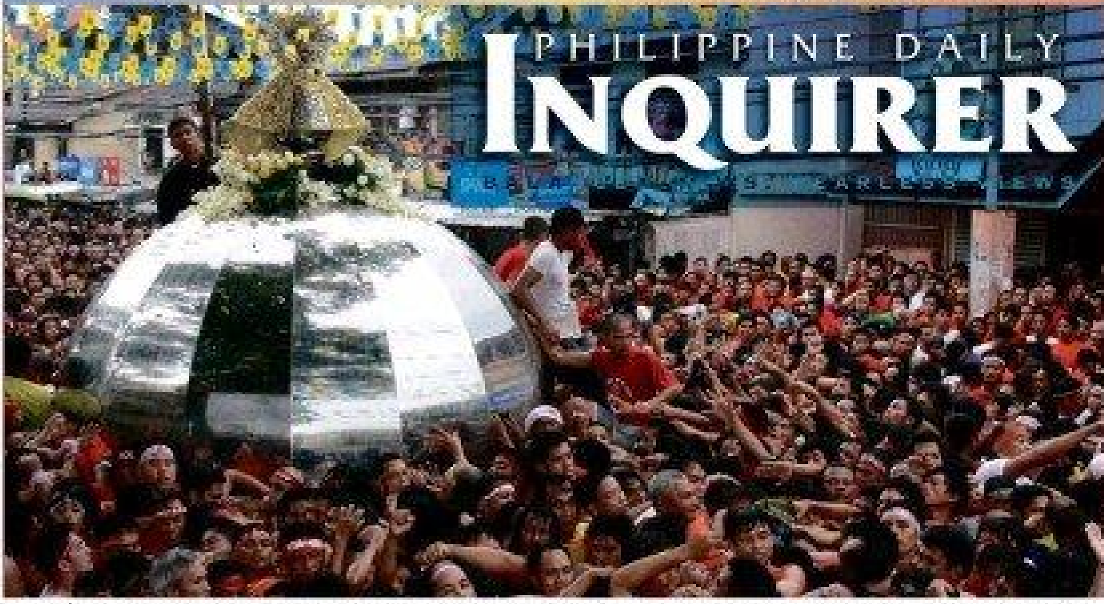
Saturday, September 8, 2012 ★★ 10 sections / Vol. 27 / No. 272 P18

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



'INA' OF PEÑAFRANCIA The traditional "traslacion" procession transferring the image of Ina, the Virgin Mary, from the shrine in Barangay Peñafrancia to Metropolitan Cathedral kicks off the annual celebration in Naga City of the Feast of Our Lady of Peñafrancia on Sept. 15, the largest Marian celebration in the country. Today, Sept. 8, Catholics celebrate the feast of the birthday of Mary. (See story on Page A8.)

Palace confirms probes

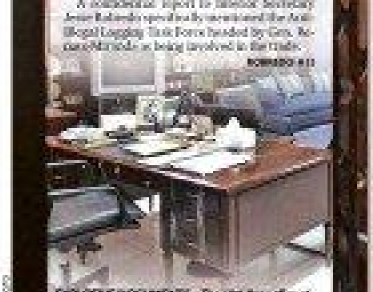
Robredo report links execs to illegal logging

By Arlyn dela Cruz
Correspondent at large

A TASK force on illegal logging of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) headed by a retired general is protecting illegal loggers and financiers in the Caraga Region (Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur and Dinagat Islands).

A confidential report to Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo specifically mentioned the Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force headed by Gen. ... as being involved in the trade.

ROBREDO A11





EXPLOSIVE DOCUMENTS The 18th floor office of Jesse Robredo and his condo both in Quezon City are secured by the Presidential Security Group. At right is the first page of the report on illegal logging submitted by DILG Special Assistant ... to Robredo.

But mum if Puno under investigation

By TJ Burgonio

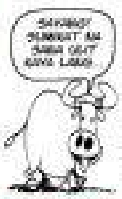
MALACAÑANG confirmed yesterday that Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo was investigating sensitive matters before he died in a plane crash on Aug. 18, but declined to say if the investigation involved Interior Undersecretary Ricardo Puno.

"What I can confirm is that, before his death, Secretary Robredo was conducting a number of very sensitive investigations. But I will not comment on the specifics of what was being investigated or who I think will eventually come out," Communication Secretary Ricky Carandang told reporters in an interview at Ninoy Aquino International Airport before the departure of President Aquino and his entourage for Vladivostok, Russia, to attend the 20th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) forum.

On Aug. 20, as the government rescue and recovery operations for Robredo were going on, the Inquirer reported that Justice Secretary Leila de Lima ordered "official and personal documents" in Robredo's apartment and offices at the DILG and the National Police Commission (Napolcom) secured at the request of Robredo's wife, lawyer Maria Leonor "Leni" Robredo.

Members of the Presidential Security Group were deployed to guard his apartment and of...

PALACE A11



Rico J, the other Puno: Funny, then it got scary

By Pocholo Concepcion

CALL it the second wind.

Singer Rico J. Puno, once dubbed the Total Entertainer when he dominated the local pop music scene in the mid-'70s, has again found fame—for being the namesake of Rico E. Puno, Undersecretary for Peace and Order at ...

RICO J A4

Obama admits path to 'better place' harder

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina—US President Barack Obama accepted the Democratic nomination for a second term on Thursday night, making a forceful argument that he had rescued the economy from disaster and ushered in a recovery that would be imperiled by a return to Republican stewardship.

Four years after fireworks consecrated his storybook campaign to become the nation's first black president, Obama took the stage on Thursday as a politician who had come down to earth and was locked in the fight of his life against the Republican nominee, Mitt Romney.

The stirring outsider's message had become a policy-laden appeal for continuity, the mantra of reform was now a vigorous defense of his current course.

Describing himself as "mind...

OBAMA A11

Local Obama supporters get together to listen to his acceptance speech / A11

P-Noy in Vladivostok for Apec, to sell PH

By Gil C. Cabacungan

RUSSKY, Vladivostok—President Aquino arrived at this former Russian naval fortress on Friday to present investment opportunities in the Philippines at the 20th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) forum and leaders' summit this weekend.

Mr. Aquino will have four bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the summit, but as of Friday, none of these will be with the president of China.

The President left Manila at 1 p.m. for the Russian port city

P-NOY A14

Nationalism stokes disputes over islands around Asia / A14
Politics, territorial spats weaken Asia-Pacific resolve / A13

President's satisfaction rating back to 'very good'

ACROSS regions, classes and genders, President Aquino has bounced back in popularity as shown by his "very good" net satisfaction rating of plus 67, 25 points more than his "good" plus 42 rating last quarter, a recent survey by the Social Weather Stations (SWS) indicated.

"The President's satisfaction rating registered a double-digit improvement across the board except for Mindanao, (where

PRESIDENT'S A4

25-point 'bounce' elates Palace / A4

WHAT'S INSIDE

Second FRONTPAGE

P-Noy pushes compromise on RH

PRESIDENT AQUINO is banking on senators and congressmen to "work out compromises" to get Congress to approve the controversial reproductive health bill, Malacañang said yesterday.

NBI busts case-fixing syndicate at the DOJ



Customs agents seize smuggled rhino horns

DOJ forms panel to handle Corona tax evasion case

SC: Dual citizens can't run for elective posts

By Jerome Aning

FILIPINOS with dual citizenship must first give up their foreign citizenship under oath before they can run for any elective post.

The Supreme Court issued the ruling yesterday as it upheld the Commission on Elections' unseating of the Vice Mayor Teodora Sobejana-Condon of Caba, La Union for failing to renounce her Australian citizenship under oath as required by Republic Act No. 9225 or the Citizenship Retention and Re-Acquisition Act of 2003.

"Failure to renounce foreign citizenship in accordance with the exact tenor of Section 5 (2) of RA 9225 renders a dual citizen ineligible to run for and thus hold any elective public office," the court en banc said in a 26-page decision penned by Justice Bienvenido Reyes.

The high court upheld the September 2011 ruling of the Comelec en banc, which in turn affirmed the October 2010 decision of the La Union regional trial court that nullified Condon's victory in the 2010 polls.

Condon was disqualified for failure to renounce her Australian citizenship under oath, contrary to the exact mandate of Section 5 (2) that the renunciation of foreign citizenship must be sworn before an public officer authorized to administer oath.

Condon appealed the Comelec ruling to the Supreme Court in October last year. The high court, however, did not issue a temporary restraining order so she was replaced the following month as vice mayor by the town's first councilor, Philip Caesar [illegible].

The justices said that Condon's act of running for public office does not suffice to serve as an effective renunciation of her Australian citizenship. While the court has previously declared that the filing by a person with dual citizenship of a certificate of candidacy is already considered a renunciation of foreign citizenship, such ruling was already adjudged superseded by the enactment of RA 9225 on August 29, 2003 which provides for the additional condition of a personal and sworn renunciation of foreign citizenship.

"The foreign citizenship must be formally rejected through an affidavit duly sworn before an officer authorized to administer oath," the court said.

The justices said the fact that Condon won the elections cannot cure the defect of her candidacy since "garnering the most number of votes does not validate the election of a disqualified candidate because the application of the constitutional and statutory provisions on disqualification is not a matter of popularity."

"[Condon] is yet to regain her political right to seek elective office. Unless she executes a sworn renunciation of her Australian citizenship, she is ineligible to run for and hold any elective office in the Philippines," the high court said.

Condon became a naturalized Australian citizen when she married Kevin Thomas Condon on Dec. 13, 1984.

On Dec. 2, 2005, she filed an application to re-acquire Philippine citizenship. She took her oath of allegiance to the Philippines on Dec. 5, 2005.

On Sept. 18, 2006, she filed an unsworn declaration of renunciation of Australian citizenship before the Department of Immigration and Indigenous Affairs in Canberra, which on Sept. 27, 2006 certified that she had ceased to be an Australian citizen.

25-point 'bounce' elates Palace

[illegible]

Public satisfaction with President Aquino (March to August 2012)

	Satisfied			Dissatisfied			Net		
	March	May	August	March	May	August	March	May	August
Philippines	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
NCR	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bal Luzon	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Visayas	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mindanao	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total Urban	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total Rural	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
ABC	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
D	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
E	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Male	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Female	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

Transparency, accountability

[illegible]

People's faith

[illegible]

Briton who killed Pinay wife in 1988 'fights' deportation Down Under

[illegible]

'Most cost-effective way'

[illegible]

22-year sentence

[illegible]

President's satisfaction rating back to 'very good,' SWS survey says

[illegible]



DEPARTURE HONORS [illegible]

[illegible]

Biggest gain in Metro

[illegible]

Hunger incidence dips

[illegible]

The Daily Gospel

Saturday - September 8, 2012

[illegible]

Rico J, the other Puno: Funny, then it got scary

[illegible]



RICO PUNO with a "J"

[illegible]

'Jueteng'

[illegible]

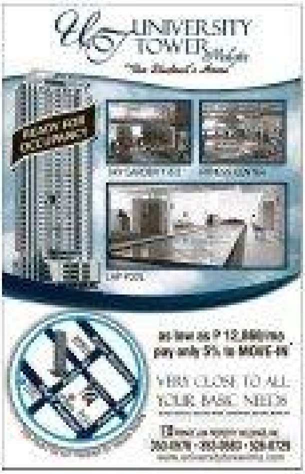
Makati councilor

[illegible]

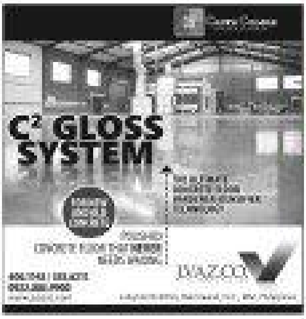
‘Check geohazard maps before buying a house’

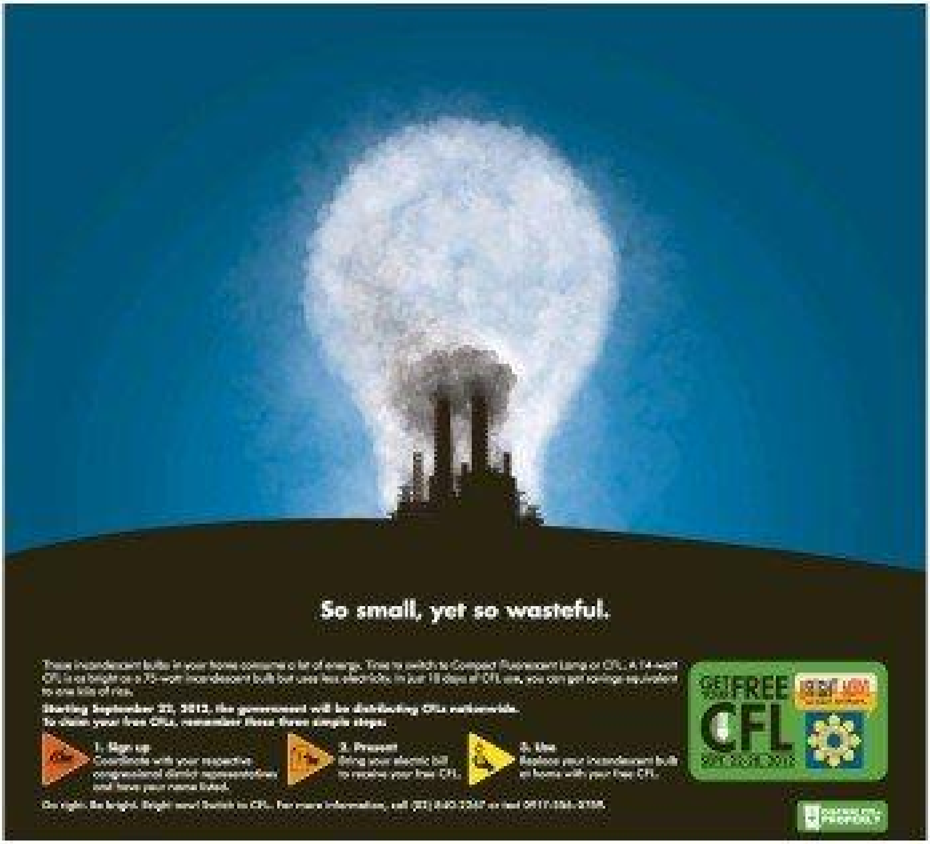


Former tourism exec Godfrey B. Lumauig; 74









Across the NATION

Kato rebels agree to stop offensives

Military exec doubts number displaced in Maguindanao



RESIDENTS from a remote village in Ampatuan town in Maguindanao evacuate to safer grounds after renegade Muslim rebels attacked military positions in Maguindanao and North Cotabato last month.

COTABATO CITY—Ameril Umra Kato's group yesterday made a complete turnaround from its earlier vow of all-out war against the military as it announced a respite from attacks carried out by its forces in Maguindanao.



MUDCAKES

BFAR renews warning vs eating puffer fish

NPA apologizes for grenade blast in Davao

INQUIRER Visayas

Quake haunts Negros villagers anew

By [illegible]

WHEN the ground shook in the evening of Aug. 31, residents of Barangay Sobrepeña in La Libertad town in Negros Oriental province went out of their makeshift homes and braced for the worst.

"The people grabbed some of their belongings and went out. Fortunately, it was not that strong," Barangay Chair [illegible] said.

The 7.6-magnitude earthquake that hit Eastern Samar and parts of the Visayas and Mindanao was nearly 300 kilometers from Sobrepeña, but the villagers could not have felt it closer.

At least 120 families or more than 500 people are still living in tents and makeshift houses on the grounds of the barangay hall in Sobrepeña, nearly seven months after a 6.9-magnitude earthquake struck Central Visayas on Feb. 6, devastating northern towns and one city of Negros Oriental.

The earthquake, the worst tragedy to hit the province in recent years, killed 41 people and destroyed or damaged [illegible] houses, 22 bridges, nine church buildings, nine establishments, school buildings and roads.

Thousands of people were left homeless while many more were scared, refusing to go back to their homes weeks after the earthquake out of fear that the rumbles might strike again.



THIS PICTURE, taken in February 2012, shows rescue workers digging in search of survivors in Barangay Planas, Guihulngan City, Negros Oriental, after a 6.9-magnitude earthquake.

Worst-hit

Sobrepeña was among the worst-hit villages in the province. A landslide wiped out parts of the village, burying people alive. At least 38 remain missing and are presumed dead.

Eighteen people were also missing in Barangay Planas in Guihulngan City.

When the Aug. 31 tremor struck the Visayas, fear gripped a number of residents who immediately went out of their houses.

Fr. [illegible], La Libertad parish priest, said he, too, went out of the convent at the town proper. "I saw other people who went out of their houses. They are still afraid," he said.

[illegible] said the situation had not yet returned to normal. Some residents are still traumatized; a few have suffered from nervous breakdown or became mentally disturbed.

"Hundreds [of people] still do not have permanent homes and they need livelihood support," he said.

Relocation site

The municipal government has identified a 4.5-hectare relocation site for the evacuees in Sobrepeña. The place would be ready for relocation in November or December, [illegible] said.

Some of the construction materials, including those for roofing, were provided by the municipality. Private companies have also offered to help.

While students have long returned to school, many of them still attend classes in makeshift classrooms because the damaged school buildings have not yet been fully reconstructed and repaired.

Pupils of [illegible] Central Elementary School in [illegible] town go to classes in two huge tents, said [illegible], provincial schools superintendent. Roughly [illegible] classrooms in public elementary and high schools are needed to replace those destroyed by the earthquake, he said.

The Department of Education expects the construction of new classrooms to be completed within the year. Private companies have also donated classrooms to some areas.

Bridges rehab

The rehabilitation of bridges, however, will take longer. Twenty-two bridges were destroyed or damaged during the earthquake and [illegible] needed to be replaced.

Only six replacement bridges have been included in next year's program of projects of the Department of Public Works and Highways, according to engineer [illegible] of the province's first engineering district.

Almost all of the damaged bridges are passable, with one having a detour.

Even as the residents of the earthquake-hit areas continue to struggle to fully recover, they have looked beyond their own plight.

On Sunday, churchgoers responded to the call of the Diocese of San Carlos City to help the victims in Eastern Samar. [illegible] said the parish collected more than P1,000 for a second collection of contributions during the Mass.

"It's a thanksgiving donation because others also helped us when we needed it," he said.

Story Hours: Fun time even for nonreaders of Mandaue City

By [illegible]

Cebu City

IT IS a daily challenge for [illegible] Flores, principal of Mayor A.S. Fortuna Memorial Elementary School (MASFMES) in Barangay [illegible], Mandaue City to encourage 1,280 pupils to love reading.



PUPILS of Mayor A.S. Fortuna Memorial Elementary School and Saint Theresa's College eagerly participate in the [illegible] Read-Along.

"I cannot deny it, we really have nonreaders here. It is difficult to make these children learn, especially when the parents are not supportive," said Flores, 41, who has been teaching for [illegible] years.

[illegible]

Project launching

[illegible]



Transfer of Ina ushers in Peñafrancia fiesta



Immigration on alert for 9/11 anniversary

Last call for OFW voters to list up

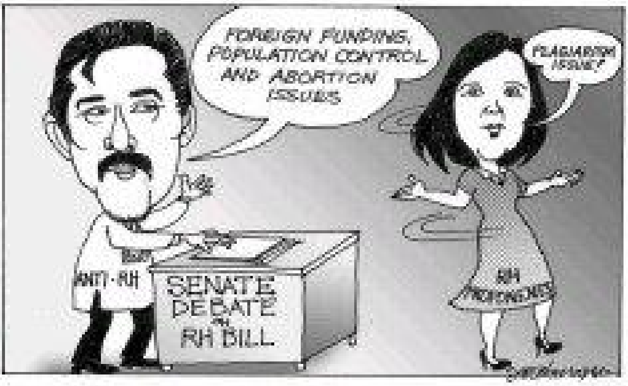


INQUIRER

OPINION

'Never again!'

EDITORIAL



A thousand and one thieves

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

Injustice in UP

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

Predicting the US election

SOCIAL CLIMATE



Mahar Mangahas

Spell well, read well, write well

COMMENTARY

Butch Hernandez

Mediation at the CTA

BUSINESS MATTERS



Ricardo J. Romulo

Out of West Africa

COMMENTARY

Krupskaya M. Añonuevo

Factual response to Tiglao column

LETTERS

Tiglao's opinion is unfortunate and untrue

Bam Aquino should seek a Senate seat

'BJE' no longer in use

Blind to plight of the poor

Politics, territorial spats weaken Asia-Pacific resolve

Palace confirms probes but mum if Puno under investigation

New DILG chief

No confirmation

Log book

No police probe yet

Robredo report links officials to illegal logging in Caraga Region



'Worrying information'

Recommendations

Pictures of illegal logs

Miranda's denial

All the way to Palace

Nationalism stokes disputes over islands around Asia

Obama admits path to 'better place' harder in his speech



FIRST FAMILY US President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, daughters Malia and Sasha wave after Obama's acceptance speech at Time Warner Cable Arena in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Thursday.

From 'Change' to 'Forward'

Central theme

Bravery is in the heart

War veterans

Ask Bin Laden

Emotional at the end

Obama supporters get together to listen to his acceptance speech

P-Noy in Vladivostok; to sell PH to Apec's investors

Timely issues

Real action in bilaterals

The entourage

Not giving up

Djokovic, Ferrer forge clash with epic wins



DJOKOVIC: Defense to offense

'Manong Brigade' no more

IN HUDDLE

Beth Celis

China pricks PH bubble

So averts shutout as Filipinos bow to Asian powerhouse



WESLEY SO plays Super GM Wang Hao.

By Roy Luarca

Breakthrough victory for gritty Hong



HONG: No playoff

La Salle fives score in SBP, Passerelle



THE SAN BEDA and La Salle squads square off in SBP action.

Anvaya event draws ex-triathlon champs

NCA stag series sizzles Tuesday



Tuason revs up car, eyes better finish today

SM Ice Skating big in 20th year

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa

SPORTS

Ababa trails Selangor leader by 5

Veteran pool icons keep PH flag waving in World Cup

By Musong R. Castillo

UAAP orders replay of FEU-NU match

By Jasmine W. Payo



THE National U Bulldogs, led by Bobby Ray Parks (right), will get another crack at the FEU Tamaraws.

Lions face Bombers; Altas battle Generals

By Cedelf P. Tupas

Schrock: 'I'm just small piece of the puzzle'

By Cedelf P. Tupas

UPH squads sweep beach volley plums



Bautista paces BWC finalists

Philta-Palawan tennis hits Bacolod

Calamba hosts football festival

Bermudez barely misses wakeboard finale

Aplus METRO

'Kotong' cop still active after 7 cases



Fists of Fabros: MMDA men train in martial arts

PRIOR to his extortion attempt Tuesday night on a motorist who turned out to be the son of Metro Manila's top cop, SPO4 Jose de la Peña had faced at least seven administrative complaints since 2006.



DH in missing infant case undergoes lie detector test



Tutuban tenants assured of Yule venue after fire

METROBRIEFS

Twin killings on a boat

Jojo Binay is not a malignant spirit

On Target



Firm dredging Marikina River

Pakistan threatens to expel aid group's foreigners over Bin Laden

Wanna get a green card and stay in the US? Buy it

WorldBriefs

Migrant boat sinks off Turkey; children among 61 dead

Girl crouches for 8 hours in car with slain relatives

US bishop convicted for failing to report priest



HIGH-FLYING PRESIDENT

INVITATION TO BID



The WORLD

France sends funds to Syria civic groups

PARIS—The French government is providing funds to five revolutionary councils in rebel-held parts of Syria to help them restore water supplies, sanitation, health services and bakeries, a senior French diplomat, Eric Chevallier, said on Thursday.

[illegible]



IN THIS ISSUE

- SEC approves public stock offering of mining firm /B2
- GSIS revenue rose 14% in 1st 7 months /B3

BUSINESS

Forex reserves breach $80-B mark

End-August level enough to cover a year's imports

THE COUNTRY'S gross international reserves (GIR) surpassed the $80-billion mark in August, the highest ever recorded by the Philippines and a big boost to the confidence of the international financial community and foreign investors.

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

41.680

STOCK MARKET

51.21



Stocks, peso up on Europe news

Banks' bad loan ratio down to 2.18% in June



METROBANK TURNS 50

SEC approves public stock offering of mining firm

Coal Asia to sell 800M shares at ₱1 each

PNOC-EC eyes follow-on stock offer by Dec. 10

SM joins Asia Miles rewards program

Banks' bad loan ratio

Forex reserves breach $80-B mark

Stocks, peso up on Europe news

GSIS revenue rose 14% in 1st 7 months

Equity investments up 29% to P86.5B in July

NEA eyes help in managing ₱33-B projects

DOTC seeking bids for seaport improvements

Power Situation Outlook for Saturday, 8 September 2012

Metrobank out to redeem ₱8.5B worth of debt notes

Republika ng Pilipinas

KAGAWARAN NG KATARUNGAN

Department of Justice

Manila

LML-DC-17H12-008

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 049

ADOPTING ACCREDITATION GUIDELINES FOR ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROVIDER ORGANIZATIONS AND TRAINING STANDARDS FOR ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PRACTITIONERS

WHEREAS, the Office for Alternative Dispute Resolution (OADR) is a government agency created under Section 49 of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9285 (Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 2004) to promote, develop and expand the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in the private and public sectors; assist the government to monitor, study and evaluate the use of ADR by the public and private sectors; and recommend to Congress needful statutory changes to develop, strengthen and improve ADR practices in accordance with world standards;

WHEREAS, Section 50 (a), (b), (c) and (d) of R.A. No. 9285 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations confer upon the OADR the power and duty, among others, to formulate accreditation and training standards of ADR practitioners and service providers; to certify that such practitioners and providers have undergone the professional training provided by the OADR; to compile and publish a list or roster of ADR provider organizations (APOs) accredited and certified by the OADR, and practitioners who have undergone training provided either by the OADR or its accredited providers; and to coordinate the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of government ADR programs;

WHEREAS, the establishment of professional standards relating to qualifications, competence and performance promotes quality and accountability among ADR providers and practitioners;

NOW, THEREFORE, the OADR adopts the following accreditation guidelines for ADR provider organizations and training standards for ADR practitioners:

Section 1. Definition of Terms.

a. "Accreditation" or "Certification" means a process whereby an individual or organization engaged in, or a program relating to, the delivery of ADR services undergoes evaluation for the purpose of determining whether it meets the minimum standards on qualifications, competence and performance in regard to those services.

b. "ADR Practitioners" or "ADR Neutrals" shall refer to individuals acting as mediator, conciliator, arbitrator, neutral evaluator or any person exercising similar functions in any Alternative Dispute Resolution system.

c. "ADR Provider Organizations" (APOs) means institutions, associations, centers or organizations which provide ADR services to the general public through a roster of neutrals serving as mediator, conciliator, arbitrator, neutral evaluator, or any person exercising similar functions in any Alternative Dispute Resolution system.

d. "ADR Services" shall include but not be limited to serving as an ADR practitioner, providing ADR training, conducting program and system design and managing, overseeing or administering ADR programs.

e. "Alternative Dispute Resolution System" means any process or procedure used to resolve a dispute or controversy, other than by adjudication of a presiding judge of a court or an officer of a government agency, in which a neutral third party participates to assist in the resolution of issues, which includes arbitration, mediation, conciliation, early neutral evaluation, mini-trial, or any combination thereof.

f. "Arbitration" means a voluntary dispute resolution process in which one or more arbitrators, appointed in accordance with the agreement of the parties, or rules promulgated pursuant to the ADR Act, resolve a dispute by rendering an award.

g. "Arbitrator" means the person appointed to render an award, alone or with others, in a dispute that is the subject of an arbitration agreement.

h. "Mediation" means a voluntary process in which a mediator facilitates communication and negotiation, and assists the parties in reaching a voluntary agreement regarding a dispute.

i. "Mediator" means a person who conducts mediation.

j. "Private APOs" means those private sector APOs which offer ADR training programs or dispute resolution services to the general public, to government agencies, or in partnership with said agencies.

k. "Public APOs" means those government agencies which offer ADR training programs or dispute resolution services within that agency, to the general public, to other government agencies, or in partnership with said agencies.

l. "Roster" means a list of persons qualified to provide ADR services as neutrals, whether as mediator, conciliator, arbitrator, neutral evaluator, or any person exercising similar functions in any Alternative Dispute Resolution system.

TITLE I

GUIDELINES FOR ACCREDITATION

CHAPTER I. PRIVATE ADR PROVIDER ORGANIZATIONS

Section 2. Coverage.

These Guidelines shall apply to all private APOs as defined in Section 1 (j).

Section 3. Accreditation - when required.

Accreditation is mandatory for private APOs offering ADR services to government agencies or in partnership with said agencies. Government agencies shall only partner with or engage the services of OADR-accredited private APOs.

For all other private APOs offering services not covered by the preceding paragraph, accreditation is voluntary.

Section 4. Accreditation Requirements.

Any private APO applying for accreditation shall comply with the following requirements:

a. Submission of a notarized application form (OADR Form 001), signed by a duly authorized senior officer of the applicant and supported by the corresponding board resolution where applicable;

b. Submission of certificate of registration from the Securities and Exchange Commission or any other relevant regulatory agencies;

c. Submission of the website address of the applicant, which website shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

i. Basic information about the applicant, including:

- Company Profile
- Statement defining the applicant's mission and objectives
- List of officers and directors
- Contact information (office address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address)

ii. ADR Services Offered

- List and description of each ADR process offered
- Process flow for each of these processes
- Rules of procedure adopted for each ADR process
- Enforcement mechanism for ADR outcome, which must be consistent with the enforcement framework provided under the ADR Act, its Implementing Rules and Regulations, and the Special ADR Rules of Court, unless a different enforcement mechanism is provided for by law.

If the applicant intends to offer ADR training, it shall also submit a proposed training program that complies with the requirements provided under Sections 24 to 29 of Title II of this Circular.

iii. Roster of Neutrals and Fees

- Roster of accredited neutrals, with their corresponding professional resumes/curriculum vitae
- Schedule of fees
- Qualification standards for neutrals

iv. Ethical Standards / Recourse Mechanisms

- Code of ethics/ethical rules that the applicant has adopted, which must be consistent with ethical standards or guidelines provided under the ADR Act, its Implementing Rules and Regulations, and other relevant ADR laws and issuances
- Recourse mechanism for parties in the event of complaints against neutrals

In addition to the website link, the applicant shall submit a file containing a complete print-out (in letter-sized paper) of all the information contained in the website at the time the application is filed.

d. Signing of a commitment (OADR Form 002) to comply with the guidelines and standards provided in OADR's Statement of Principles for ADR Provider Organizations, attached hereto as Annex "A", as well as OADR's Training Standards for ADR Practitioners; and

e. Payment of the corresponding application fee.

Section 5. Assessment and Issuance of Certificate of Accreditation.

Upon receipt of the application, the OADR shall make the corresponding examination, including site visits, where necessary. The OADR may likewise cause the publication of the application for comment. Upon determination that the foregoing requirements have been satisfactorily complied with, the OADR shall thereupon issue a Certificate of Accreditation to the applicant. Where the application and its supporting documents are incomplete or defective, the OADR may direct the applicant to make the corresponding corrections or submit additional documentation.

Section 6. Validity Period of Accreditation.

The Certificate of Accreditation shall be valid for a period of two (2) years from issuance, without prejudice to renewal, which shall be conditioned upon submission of a new application form, payment of the required fees and compliance with such additional requirements as may be set by the OADR.

Section 7. Effects of Accreditation.

The accreditation by the OADR of a private APO shall have the following effects:

a. The private APO shall be included in the list of accredited APOs in the OADR's website.

b. Any certification or accreditation of individual ADR practitioners granted by such private APO shall be recognized by the OADR, but only within the period within which the private APO remains accredited and only for the particular field of practice for which the neutral has been certified or accredited. For this purpose, the OADR shall likewise include in its website the list of accredited private APOs with link to the individual accredited practitioners of said private APOs.

c. Accredited private APOs and certified and/or accredited individual ADR practitioners shall be permitted to offer dispute resolution services to government agencies. They shall also be allowed to provide ADR training, systems design or similar services to government agencies subject to such additional guidelines as the OADR may prescribe.

Section 8. Compliance Monitoring.

The OADR shall monitor compliance by accredited private APOs with their commitments to the Guidelines and the Standards provided in the OADR's Statement of Principles for Accredited ADR Provider Organizations ("Statement of Principles") and the OADR's Training Standards for ADR Neutrals ("Training Standards"). The OADR may, upon complaint of any interested party or motu proprio, revoke any accreditation earlier conferred upon a finding of:

i. Material violation of any provision of the Statement of Principles or the Training Standards; or

ii. Failure to maintain the website required under these guidelines, or its material alteration in such a way that the private APO adopts ethical, professional, practice, legal or administrative standards significantly lower than those initially represented in the original website; or

iii. Any other violations or circumstances of a similar nature and analogous to those above mentioned.

For this purpose, the OADR shall issue separate guidelines prescribing the procedure for resolving complaints for violation of this section.

TITLE II. ADR PRACTITIONERS

Section 9. Purpose and Coverage.

Pursuant to the OADR's policy to enlist active private sector participation in the settlement of disputes through ADR, the following guidelines are hereby adopted for the recognition of ADR Practitioners who were trained by non-accredited APOs, ADR centers or institutions.

For those ADR practitioners trained by accredited APOs, the guidelines in Chapter I of Title I shall apply.

Section 10. Accreditation - when required.

Accreditation is mandatory for ADR practitioners offering ADR services to government agencies or in partnership with said agencies. Government agencies shall only partner with or engage the services of the OADR-accredited ADR practitioners.

For all other ADR practitioners offering services not covered by the preceding paragraph, accreditation is voluntary.

Section 11. Accreditation Requirements.

Any ADR practitioner applying for accreditation shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Submission of a notarized application form (OADR Form 003);
2. Submission of applicant's curriculum vitae showing relevant ADR training and experience;
3. Submission of syllabus/brochure/program indicating training courses taken, names of instructors, corresponding training hours and training dates, or any other similar documentation indicating nature and duration of training received;
4. Submission of certificate or other proof of attendance in relevant trainings; and
5. Payment of the corresponding application fee.

Section 12. Assessment and Issuance of Certificate of Accreditation.

Upon receipt of the application, the OADR shall make the corresponding evaluation and upon determination that the foregoing requirements have been satisfactorily complied with, the OADR shall thereupon issue a Certificate of Accreditation to the applicant. Where the application and its supporting documents are incomplete or defective, the OADR may direct the applicant to make the corresponding corrections or submit additional documentation.

Section 13. Validity Period of Accreditation.

The Certificate of Accreditation shall be valid for a period of two (2) years from issuance, without prejudice to renewal, which shall be conditioned upon submission of a new application form, payment of the required fees and compliance with such additional requirements as may be set by the OADR.

Section 14. Effects of Accreditation.

The accreditation by the OADR of an ADR practitioner shall have the following effects:

a. The ADR practitioner shall be included in the list of accredited ADR practitioners in the OADR's website.

b. Accredited and certified ADR practitioners will be permitted to offer dispute resolution services to government agencies. They shall also be allowed to provide ADR training, systems design or similar services to government agencies subject to such additional guidelines as the OADR may prescribe.

However, any certification and/or accreditation granted by the OADR to an ADR practitioner under this chapter shall only be for the particular field of practice for which the neutral has applied for and had been certified and/or accredited by the OADR.

TITLE III. PUBLIC ADR PROGRAMS

Section 15. Coverage and Limitations.

These Guidelines shall apply to ADR programs managed, overseen or administered by public APOs as defined in Section 1 (k).

These Guidelines, however, shall not apply to ADR programs managed by the following with regard to their respective offices:

1. Constitutional Commissions;
2. Congress;
3. The Supreme Court, its subordinate agencies and all lower courts; and
4. The Construction Industry Arbitration Commission (CIAC).

These Guidelines, likewise, shall not be applicable to any ADR programs involving the following:

1. Disputes covered by Presidential Decree No. 442, (Labor Code of the Philippines, as amended), and its Implementing Rules and Regulations; and
2. Disputes covered by the Katarungang Pambarangay Law under Sections 399 to 422 of Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991).

Section 16. Accreditation Requirements.

Any public APO applying for accreditation of its proposed ADR program shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Submission of a notarized application form (OADR Form 004), signed by the head of agency or designated official;
2. Submission of the corresponding OADR certificate of accreditation of the private APO or private ADR practitioner in case the public APO intends to partner with such private APO or private ADR practitioner for the design or implementation of its proposed ADR program;
3. Submission of agency issuance authorizing the proposed ADR program, including subsequent issuances approving the revised ADR program, when applicable;
4. Submission of the proposed ADR Program and related documents, including, to the extent applicable, those enumerated under Section 4 hereof; and
5. Payment of corresponding application fee.

If the public APO intends to offer ADR training, it shall also submit a proposed training program that complies with the requirements provided under Sections 23 to 28 of Title II of this Circular.

Section 17. Assessment and Issuance of Certificate of Accreditation.

Upon receipt of the application, the OADR shall make the corresponding evaluation of the proposed ADR program. Upon determination that the foregoing requirements have been satisfactorily complied with, the OADR shall thereupon issue a Certificate of Accreditation for the ADR program. Where the application and its supporting documents are incomplete or defective, the OADR may direct the applicant to make the corresponding corrections or submit additional documentation.

Section 18. Validity Period of Accreditation.

The Certificate of Accreditation shall be valid for a period of

two (2) years from issuance, without prejudice to renewal, which shall be conditioned upon submission of a new application form, payment of the required fees and compliance with such requirements as may be set by the OADR.

Section 19. Effects of Accreditation.

The accreditation by the OADR of the ADR program shall have the following effects:

a. The ADR program shall be included in the list of public APOs with accredited ADR Programs in the OADR's website.

b. Any certification and/or accreditation of ADR practitioners granted by the public APO under the accredited ADR Program shall be recognized by the OADR. For this purpose, the OADR shall also include in its website the list of accredited ADR Programs with link to the accredited practitioners of those public APOs.

However, any certification and/or accreditation granted by the OADR to an ADR practitioner under this chapter shall only be for the particular ADR Program and field of practice for which the neutral has been certified and/or accredited by the OADR.

Section 20. Compliance Monitoring.

The OADR shall monitor compliance by the Public APOs of their commitments with the foregoing guidelines under this Chapter and may revoke any accreditation previously granted upon the same grounds as provided under Section 8 hereto.

Section 21. Transitory Provisions.

1. The recognition of ADR practitioners certified and accredited under existing government ADR programs shall expire one (1) year after the effectivity of this Circular. Renewal of such accreditation shall be subject to compliance with the requirements provided under Section 16 hereto.

2. The recognition of existing ADR programs of Public APOs shall expire one (1) year after the effectivity of this Circular. Renewal of such accreditation shall be subject to compliance with the requirements provided under Section 16 hereto.

3. The recognition of ADR practitioners who are already accredited by private APOs at the time of the filing of application for accreditation by the private APOs with the OADR shall be subject to the submission of requirements under Section 10 hereto and the corresponding evaluation by the OADR.

TITLE II

PROGRAM STANDARDS FOR THE TRAINING OF ADR PRACTITIONERS

Section 22. Coverage and Applicability.

These Standards shall apply to the training of ADR practitioners to enable them to serve as neutrals in ADR proceedings, such as arbitration, mediation, conciliation, early neutral evaluation, mini-trial or any other ADR process.

Section 23. Purpose.

These Standards are intended to prescribe minimum requirements for the training of ADR practitioners to ensure that certified or accredited ADR neutrals possess the basic knowledge and skills to serve as such.

Section 24. Prior Approval and Compliance Monitoring.

The accredited public or private APO conducting the training shall submit a copy of the training program, faculty resumes, curriculum vitae and training materials (modules) to the OADR for approval at least one (1) month prior to the intended training date. The OADR may require changes to the training program in accordance with the guidelines set forth herein. The OADR shall monitor any training thereafter conducted and may send a representative to ensure conformity with the approved training program. Any substantial deviation from the approved program without prior written approval of the OADR may be deemed a violation of the Program Standards and may be a ground for the revocation of any accreditation earlier conferred.

Section 25. Objectives and Outcomes.

All ADR training programs should contain a detailed statement informing the participants of the training objectives and expected outcome in terms of knowledge to be imparted and skills to be taught. The program content should directly meet the objectives and outcomes of the training program.

Section 26. Training Faculty.

The lecturers, trainers and facilitators shall be composed of persons who have either had advanced training in ADR or work experience of at least three (3) years in the specific area/s covered by the topic assigned.

Section 27. Course Content.

Any program intended to serve as a basic training and accreditation program for ADR neutrals shall consist of a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of lectures and/or coursework, and a minimum of sixteen (16) hours of simulations, practical exercises and/or skills training. The training program shall cover, among others, the following areas:

i. Discussion of applicable laws, administrative and executive issuances on ADR

ii. ADR theory and concepts

(For Basic Mediation Course) – At a minimum, the following areas/topics should be covered:

- Concept of Mediation
- Benefits/Advantages of Mediation
- Distinction between mediation and litigation; mediation and other ADR processes
- Detailed Description/Discussion of the Stages of Mediation (Opening Statement, Joint Discussion, Private Caucuses, Joint Negotiation, Closure)
- Different Mediation Styles (Facilitative, Evaluative, Transformative, etc.)
- Role of Parties, Counsel and Mediators in Mediation
- Ethics
- Enforcement of Mediated Settlement Agreements

(For Basic Arbitration Course) – At a minimum, the following areas/topics should be covered:

- Arbitration concepts
- Benefits/Advantages of Arbitration
- Distinction between arbitration and litigation; arbitration and other ADR processes
- Detailed Description/Discussion of the Stages of Arbitration
- Applicable Arbitration Laws & Issuances (Arbitration Act, ADR Act and its IRR, UNCITRAL Model Law, Special ADR Rules of Court)
- Special issues and problems (e.g., challenges to arbitrators, interim relief, court supervision and assistance, etc.)
- Ethics
- Enforcement of and Recourse Against Awards in Domestic and International Commercial Arbitration

iii. Subject matter content, which shall include materials applying the ADR theory and concepts to the types of disputes that are typically or commonly encountered in the field

iv. Practical exercises, role plays, simulations or any similar skills based training

The foregoing program requirement, as well as the assessment provided in the succeeding paragraph, does not apply if no accreditation and/or certification of the training participants is intended.

Section 28. Assessment.

As part of the training program, the participants shall undergo either a written or skills assessment to test their understanding and application of the concepts and skills imparted. In case the training covers mediation, conciliation or any other consensus-based process, skills assessment shall be mandatory.

Section 29. Apprenticeship/Mentoring.

While a program of apprenticeship or mentoring for newly-accredited or certified ADR neutrals is not required, each APO is strongly encouraged to adopt this as part of their continuing education/training for the newly-accredited neutrals.

TITLE III

COMMON PROVISIONS

Section 30. Operational Guidelines.

The OADR shall issue operational guidelines within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Circular.

Section 31. Repealing Clause.

All rules and regulations, as well as instructions, issuances or orders or parts thereof inconsistent with this Circular, are hereby superseded and/or repealed accordingly.

Section 32. Effectivity.

This Circular shall take effect immediately.

17 August 2013.

LEILA M. DE LIMA
Secretary

ANNEX "A"

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR ACCREDITED ADR PROVIDER ORGANIZATIONS

An ADR Provider Organization (APO) accredited by the OADR to render ADR services for the public shall commit to adhere to the following principles:

1. Quality and Competence

An APO shall reasonably ensure that the neutrals it has accredited to provide ADR services are qualified and competent to render such services through a system of training, accreditation, performance monitoring and evaluation, and continuing education. The APO shall take measures to comply with or exceed the training standards set by the OADR, and will continuously strive to improve its training programs or curricula with the aim of providing the highest standards of training for its neutrals.

2. Confidentiality of ADR Process

An APO shall preserve and protect the integrity and confidentiality of the ADR process. In this regard, it shall take measures to ensure that no information or communication obtained in the course of an ADR proceeding shall be disclosed without the express written consent of the parties except in those cases allowed or required by law.

3. Neutrality, Fairness, Independence and Impartiality

An APO shall reasonably ensure that the rules of procedure governing ADR proceedings conducted under its auspices are fundamentally fair and impartial and that the neutrals performing ADR services are made aware of their obligation to remain neutral, fair, independent and impartial at all times.

4. Ethical Standards

An APO shall require its neutrals to adhere to a code of ethical standards that it may draft or adopt, which shall at minimum be consistent with such guidelines or standards as are provided by law.

5. Grievance Mechanism

An APO shall adopt guidelines to address grievances or complaints about the Organization, its administration or the neutrals conducting the ADR proceedings, and shall ensure that both the complainant and the subject of the complaint are given an opportunity to be fully and fairly heard.

6. Transparency

An APO shall be transparent in regard to its processes, procedural rules, administrative guidelines, fees, grievance mechanisms, ethical standards, list of neutrals, training and qualification requirements, and similar matters. For this purpose, the APO shall maintain a website indicating the foregoing and such other additional information as OADR may require it to disclose.

7. Provision of Statistical and Other Information to OADR

Subject to reasonable restrictions that OADR shall set in order to protect the privacy of parties, preserve the confidentiality of specific ADR proceedings and safeguard the privileged character of information received in the course of an ADR process, an accredited APO shall provide statistical or other information as OADR may require from time to time in order to monitor, coordinate and assess the development of ADR in the country; evaluate existing ADR programs and processes and design new ones; refine, revise or improve its ADR policies and programs; propose appropriate changes to ADR laws and other related issuances; and generally, to promote the development of ADR both in the public and private sectors.

MST: September 6, 2013

CLASSIFIEDS

FUJIFILM INVESTS 673.3 MILLION PESOS IN PH

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC Zone Authority (PEZA) Director General Lilia B. de Lima announced the registration with PEZA of Fujifilm Optics Philippines, Inc., a subsidiary of Fujifilm Japan which will manufacture high-performance lenses for digital cameras, projectors and CCTV (surveillance) cameras.

This project will be located at the Carmelray Industrial Park I, a PEZA economic zone in Laguna. Construction of the factory is in October 2012 and Start of Commercial Operations is scheduled in June 2013.

The new factory will offer an integrated production process from the polishing, coating and other processing procedures to the assembling of optical lenses. New production equipment, such as the "lens polishing machine" which polishes the surface of glass lenses with high precision at nano levels, and the "vacuum evaporation machine" which forms multilayer thin films for antireflection will be introduced for the production of high-performance lenses of digital cameras, projectors and CCTV (surveillance) cameras.

With this project costing PhP 673.3 Million, Fujifilm intends to increase the production to 18 million lenses a year by FY 2015, so as to respond to the growing demand for optical lenses.

DG de Lima cited the recent investment by Canon Business Machines (Phils.) of PhP2.5 Billion, for the production of laser beam printers.

Other notable recent investments by Japanese firms include Philippine Manufacturing Co. of Murata that invested close to PhP3 billion to manufacture electronics products, Brother Industries (Phils.) also to manufacture printers and Furukawa automotive Systems Lima Philippines investing PhP1.3 Billion for the production of automotive products.

Hundai NAMIKI Group, one of the biggest toy companies in Japan recently registered with PEZA and invested PhP 520 Million. It is expected to lure some of its suppliers to also locate in the PEZA zones.

Also, American companies Moog Integrated Products Philippines, the manufacturer of electronics with a PhP 1.347 Billion investment and Knowles Electronics (Philippines) Corporation which will invest more than PhP 620 Million to manufacture audio devices for hearing aids and mobile/consumer electronics. Both American companies have located in PEZA economic zones.

De Lima is very pleased with the revived interest of manufacturing companies in the Philippines, particularly in the PEZA zones. Their presence will have a big impact in generating jobs. These big companies will attract their many suppliers to also locate in the Philippines to supply their parts and materials. PEZA also encourages them to source from local suppliers to reduce costs.

Expected direct employment from these above mentioned companies is easily over 10,000.

"These manufacturing companies have chosen the Philippines over the other countries in the region because of the Filipino workers who are among the best in the world. With the reformist administration of President Benigno S. Aquino II, whose policy thrust are transparency and good governance and the assurance of "Worked Expo, Only Red Carpet Treatment" and "No Corruption" inside the economic zones administered by the Philippine Economic Zone Authority. The Philippines is now becoming the favored site, the haven, for investors," de Lima added.

She is very optimistic that this year will be a banner year and PEZA targets an increase of 12% for investments, 10% for exports and 12% employment.

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National/Citizenship	Position
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Science and Technology
ADVANCED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

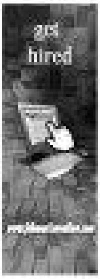
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The Advanced Science and Technology Institute (ASTI), Department of Science and Technology [illegible]

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NOTICE

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"Love is the light –
and in the end the only light –
that can always illuminate a world grown dim
and give us the courage needed to keep living and working.
Love is possible, and we are able to practise it because
we are created in the image of God. To experience love and
in this way to cause the light of God to enter into this world
– this is the invitation I would to extend..."

Pope Benedict XVI, Deus caritas est

On the Twentieth Death Anniversary
of the much-loved and greatly-missed

VICENTE G. PUYAT

26 June 1939 - 8 September 1992

Christian, businessman, faithful friend, devoted husband, loving father, Marian devotee

We enjoin the pious readers to pray for his soul.

Masses will be offered in his memory
in the following churches:

Mt. Carmel Shrine *Broadway, Quezon City*	7:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
Sto. Niño de Paz Chapel *Greenbelt, Makati City*	7:15 a.m.

In Loving Memory of

RUBEN FAMY ALVAREZ

(September 16, 1924 - September 8, 1987)

of Navotas, Cavite and Caloocan City
on the occasion of his 25th death anniversary

Holy Masses for him will be held today, September 8, 2012,
at the following churches:

OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH CHURCH, Grace Park, Caloocan City ..... [illegible]
[illegible]
ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH, [illegible], Makati City ..... [illegible]
[illegible]
MARY THE QUEEN PARISH, Greenhills West, San Juan City 6:00pm

We request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.



ATTY. JAIME "JIMMY" G. DIZON, C.P.A.

July 1, 1934 - September 5, 2012

His loving wife **NORMA**, children **ARNEL** & Enela, **LESTER** & Shanie, and **BARBARA**; and grandchildren **BREANNE**, **GENEVIE MARIE** and **CHEVY MARTIN**; nephews, nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at National Memorial Homes along Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 9, 2012 at 2:00 PM at Loyola Marikina.

We, the family of the late

ROMEO NAVARRO ALCASID

(September 2, 1939 - August 17, 2012)

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy, and who in countless ways condoled and comforted us in our bereavement.

"On This Day O Beautiful Mother,
We Give You Our Love"

In Loving Memory of

Chona Tañada Roxas Silos

December 6, 1957 - September 8, 2003

Today, the Feast of Our Lady's Nativity, her beloved family commemorates the 9th year of her passing.

We, her family, request relatives, friends and pious readers to join us in prayer for the eternal repose of her soul.

"Even
when I walk
through a
dark valley,
I fear
no harm.
For you are
at my side;
your rod
and staff
give me
courage..."

Psalm 23:4

EDITH FAJARDO TANSECO

of Baliuag, Bulacan

died on September 5, 2012 at the age of 84
after receiving the last sacrament

Her family requests readers to pray
for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her nephews and nieces:

- Children of brother Carlos Tanseco (†) and Josefina Alvarez (†): Sister Amelita, FMM, Carmen, Manuel (†), Marietta, Patricia, Carlos, Jr. (†) and Arthur
- Children of brother Generoso Tanseco (†) and Soledad Martinez (†): Fr. Ruben, SJ, Rosario, Teofista, Generoso, Jr., Teresita, Celia, Ma. Elena (†), Ma. Dolores and Jose (†)
- Children of sister Aida (†) and Celestino Joson (†): Marites, Celestino, Jr. (†), Ana Virginia, Rosemarie, Felipe and Alfonso
- Children of sister Loreto (†) and Horacio Lava (†): Horacio, Jr. (†), Remedios, Consuelo, Jose (†) and Teresa
- Children of sister Luz (†) and Emilio de la Paz (†): Lourdes, Rosario and Fortunato

Her sister-in-law Mauricia Tanseco

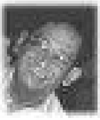
Her remains lie in state at the Nicolas Funeral Chapel beside the Baliuag Catholic Church, Baliuag, Bulacan.

Interment Schedule: Saturday, September 8, 2012 after the 1:00 PM Funeral Mass at the Baliuag Catholic Church.

In Loving Memory of the
Fourth Year Death Anniversary of our Dearest

Engr. Nicardo "Nicky" Garong Falcis

November 30, 1951 - September 8, 2008



[illegible]

Holy Masses will be offered by his family at the following Churches:

National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, Bohol ..... [illegible]
[illegible]
Sto. Domingo Church ..... [illegible]

His loving wife, Dra. [illegible] Falcis and his children, [illegible] request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose and peace of his soul.

You will always be with us in spirit. We love you, dad.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Editor: Cesar D. Mangawang
Tell us your feedback
Email: sci_health@inquirer.com.ph

World's first meatless lunch to be held in PH

By Tessa R. Salazar

IT'S GOING to be more fun to eat no meat in the Philippines. If our "mates" in Sydney know how to turn their lights off for one hour to save precious energy, then Filipinos can just as well turn off their appetites for meat for one meal to delay or even prevent climate change. Through this, they can save their good health, and the lives of fellow creatures as well.

That's how Meatless Monday Philippines founding chair Gavin Desmond, a [illegible] and a DOST (Department of Science and Technology) [illegible] scientist, optimistically envisions the group's plan to hold the first-ever World Meatless Lunch in the Philippines.



STUDENTS of Sophia School lobbying for House Bill 631 with Rep. Teddy Casiño

First to admit

"Desmond is the first to admit, though, that a sweeping [illegible] following millions of people to forego eating all forms of animal products (pork, beef, seafood, poultry, fish and seafoods) would be [illegible] and will then end deciding to flick a light switch off, as what was accomplished by Sydney, Australia in the first Earth Hour years ago."

The Lunching Lances (Meatless Monday Philippines) is now working on a partnership with UK's Meatless Monday movement headed by Paul and Stella McCartney for the World Meatless Lunch project. The campaign's website will be launched on Sept. 10.

However, should it become successful, Desmond said the impetus that this event would spark a global move toward a dietary revolution where no meat would be present in any mealtime, anywhere on the planet.

All-important event

Thus, Desmond stressed that the future of a meatless society hinges on this one "all-important event" that is planned to take place on Oct. 1 during lunch.

This event coincides with the World Vegetarian Day to raise awareness on healthy, compassionate and Earth-friendly diets. This year's theme has been determined as "Fight Climate Change, One Plate at a Time."

"Today, a staggering 45 percent of the Earth's land area and more than 70 percent of the Amazon forest have been cleared for raising livestock and growing crops to feed them," he said.

"Accounting for the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions contributed by such land use, deforestation and the lifecycle of meat products, in a 2009 publication by World Watch Magazine 'Livestock and Climate Change,' authors Robert Goodland and Jeff Anhang estimated that meat contributes to 51 percent of annual worldwide GHG emissions," Desmond said.

Currently, on second reading, the "Meatless Monday Bill" was filed in Congress via the committee on environment's Rep. Teddy Casiño.

A position paper by the Nutritionist-Dietitians' Association of the Philippines signed by its president Celeste C. Tanchoco, RND, PhD on July 26 stated the association's support to the Meatless Monday Motivational Campaign. It stated that "House Bill 6311, should it be passed into law, will aid in the campaign to control greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change and environmental degradation, as well as lessen the risks to noncommunicable diseases such as hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes mellitus, cancer and obesity."

Hope vs climate change

"Our planet is now headed for an irreversible climate change if nations fail to drastically stabilize GHG emissions within the next five years," Desmond said. He added that by 2050, global temperatures would have risen to up to four degrees Celsius, unleashing catastrophic climate change of magnitudes that would affect every single person on the planet.

"While we need to plant more trees and invest in 'green technologies,' experts say that replacing at least a quarter of meat with healthy plant-based alternatives is the only practical way to reduce excess GHGs to a safer level within the next five years."

Medicine a humbling profession

MEDICAL FILES
Rafael Castillo, M.D.



IN A RECENT medical conference, someone raised during the discussion that treatment guidelines sometimes keep on changing which can be quite confusing to practicing physicians. What was recommended five years ago may no longer be so in updated guidelines, based on data from more recent researches or clinical trials. Future trials may have different findings, so the guidelines would have to be revised again. A practicing physician knows too well that the field of medicine is never an exact science, that despite all the advances in the last three decades, there are still a lot of questions that remain unanswered.

These questions would only be answered by relevant researches on the subject. We encourage young doctors to always have an inquisitive mind and keep on asking questions, and if these questions can't find a satisfactory answer from available scientific data, they should do their own research work on the subject. But they would ask us back: "But, sir, where do we get the funding?" Indeed doing a research project can cost quite a sum, and without adequate funding from the government or other research agencies, it might be too much to get it from one's own pocket.

Frustration

That's the frustration which many local researchers encounter—frequently, we just rely on hand-me-down scientific data from foreign researches. Our medical organizations also publish treatment guidelines, but frequently, these are based on foreign research data. While most of these American and European data would also be applicable to Filipinos, it would be better if we also have local data to back up our own treatment guidelines.

Treatment guidelines are generally evidence-based, that is, grounded on scientific data. These guidelines have evolved in the last three decades from being previously "eminence-based," or based on the expert view of esteemed mentors or medical specialists to "evidence-based." Expert bodies now convene regularly to review all new research data, especially from landmark researches and clinical trials and use these as the basis for treatment guidelines for practicing physicians. These treatment guidelines are used as a reference in clinical practice to guide a physician on how best to manage their patients with similar cases described in the guidelines.

The treatment guidelines published by various expert bodies appear to be a practical reference and practice aid for all physicians. It is supposed to be based on hard data or accurate scientific evidence from landmark clinical trials and other researches, reinforcing an evidence-based clinical practice. But there are instances when hard clinical data are not available, and one can't help but think that some parts of these internationally circulated treatment guidelines are based on expert opinion or what the members of these expert panels believe as best standard of care. So these guidelines are still partly eminence-based. One can therefore expect that in many instances, some of these expert opinions are subsequently proven wrong by well conducted researches, hence the revision of the guidelines.

BP lowering in diabetics

One such case is the treatment guidelines on how aggressive blood pressure (BP) lowering should be in diabetics. Although most guidelines advocate a more aggressive BP lowering in diabetics targeting a BP of less than 130/80 mmHg, recent research data seem to put this in question. Several years ago, the American Diabetes Association (ADA) released a position statement saying that "... there is no threshold value for BP and cardiovascular and risk continues to decrease well into the normal range." This statement suggested that the lower the BP up to a level of around 115/75 mmHg or even slightly lower, the better for the patient.

Because of this aggressive approach in BP lowering for diabetics, several treatment guidelines from reputable international organizations recommend starting BP-lowering drug therapy at low BP levels like 130/80 mmHg if there's diabetes, or even lower, say 125/80 mmHg if there's established heart, brain or kidney disease.

For quite sometime, the guideline advocating aggressive BP lowering in diabetics was well accepted and practiced. Everyone believed it was well founded, or so everyone thought. Every physician appeared convinced that the lower the BP in hypertensive diabetics, as low as 110-115/70-80 mmHg, the better for the patient. Looking back though (and it's always easier to analyze things in retrospect), hard data supporting a systolic BP (the upper number in a BP reading) less than 130 mmHg was lacking particularly in diabetics with concomitant narrowing of the arteries.

No difference

Recent clinical researches such as the Action (Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes) trial showed that there was no difference in the reduction of cardiovascular risk in high-risk diabetic patients if the systolic BP was brought down with drug therapy to a moderate level of less than 140 mmHg or a more aggressive level of less than 120 mmHg. Aggressive BP lowering required more drugs to be used by the patient, higher cost of treatment and more side effects.

So for diabetics, who usually have concomitant blockages in the heart arteries, bringing down the systolic BP to less than 140 mmHg, or somewhere in the range of 130 mmHg to 135 mmHg should be good enough. A more aggressive goal does not appear to be warranted, based on recent research data.

Well, the practice of medicine may be humbling but that keeps doctors, even us older ones, always on their toes and eager to learn new ways of treating common old illnesses. That's why while some old friends ask us if we're still in practice (meaning, still holding clinics and seeing patients), instinctively we answer—"We can never perfect the field of medicine, so we need to keep on practicing."

Fascinating facts about moon trips

By Charles E. Baltar

NEIL ARMSTRONG—who died on Aug. 25 at the age of 82—became the first man to set foot on the moon. He made everyone look on earth look up and stare at the familiar fixture in our night sky and be that brief moment the world was united in awe.

He even made an entire generation of children want to become astronauts, rocket scientists, or engineers.

His feat, which he made on July 20, 1969, together with fellow moon walker Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin (the third member of the mission, Michael Collins, remained alone in lunar orbit to pilot Columbia as well as help the two complete their mission on the moon's surface), relives the boundaries of human experience.

Armstrong and Aldrin spent two hours and 32 minutes on the lunar surface, collecting samples, conducting experiments and taking photographs.

So what have we learned about our closest celestial neighbor after the Apollo 11 mission? Here are some interesting facts and trivia:

1 The Apollo 11's trip to the moon took four days, six hours and 45 minutes (and another two days, 22 hours and 56 minutes for the return trip).

2 Before the moon landing of the lunar module Eagle (which incidentally was named after the bald eagle appearing in the Apollo 11 mission insignia), many scientists feared that the moon was covered with a thick blanket of feather-weight dust that would engulf any landing spacecraft.

3 Armstrong set foot on the moon at 10:56 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (that's 10:56 a.m. in the Philippines).

4 Aldrin joined Armstrong on the surface about 10 minutes after.

5 When Armstrong stepped off the ladder of his lunar module, he left on the surface his boot prints, which will remain there for at least another million years because the moon has no appreciable atmosphere (no wind and no rain to erode the marks).

6 The two astronauts collected 22 kg of materials that included 50 rocks composed mostly of basaltic and breccias (concrete broken fragments of older rocks cemented together), samples of the fine-grained lunar "soil" and two tubes containing soil samples taken 13 cm below the Moon's surface.

7 These samples contain no water (although presence of water in ice and rocks was detected in a 2009 unmanned mission) and after extensive testing, revealed no evidence for life or at any time in the Moon's history.

8 The items Armstrong and Aldrin left on the moon surface include their portable life support backpacks; an American flag; half of the Eagle lunar landing module; a patch of the ill-fated Apollo 1 mission (where three American astronauts were killed when the module was engulfed in flames during a training exercise in 1967); medals commemorating pioneering Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Komarov and Yuri Gagarin (who had died in flight in 1967 and 1968, respectively); goodwill messages from 73 world leaders; a small gold pin shaped like an olive branch (a symbol of peace); empty food bags; and of course, a defecation collection device.

9 In all, 12 men (all Americans) were able to walk on the moon from 1969 to 1972. The last to do so was Harrison Schmitt who rode with the Apollo 17 mission.

10 The next manned National Aeronautics and Space Administration mission set to land on the Moon will happen well beyond 2018.

11 Jim Dale, founder and chief executive of Excalibur Almaz, recently announced that his company is ready to sell tickets for a round trip—for three—to the moon and back. The trip will include orbiting the lunar surface and return safely to earth, parachuting to the ground in a reusable return vehicle. This 804,672 km round trip is estimated to cost $150 million (P6.3 billion) per person.



EVEN TO SOMEONE have several decades after Armstrong's first step onto the moon's surface, his Apollo 11 mission that still serves as an inspirational moment and there aren't many events in human history that can claim that.



PROPERTY

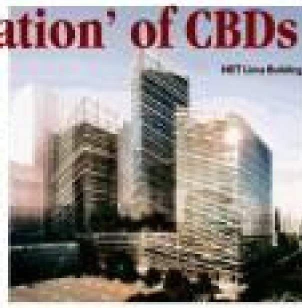
Lito Cesar D. Mangowang



BPOs causing 'hamburgerization' of CBDs

By Tessa R. Salazar


SOME office buildings in the CBDs give in to restaurants, fast-food establishments and convenience stores.


MFT Lexa Building

MORE BUSINESS process outsourcing (BPO) companies are planning to set up shop in the Philippines.

In the July 2012 Jones Lang LaSalle Leechiu Philippine Property Market Monitor Pulse, a certain BPO company (which is present in more than 50 countries) opened a new 1,800-seat facility in the Ortigas central business district in Pasig City. General Electric is planning to establish its own BPO office in the country, and Pacific and Canadian firm [illegible] have agreed to form a joint venture that will engage in BPO activities here.

As more of these offices gain foothold here, the basic sustenance of the more than 600,000 BPO employees in the country has led to the loosening of restrictions of some office buildings in the CBDs to give in to restaurants, fast-food establishments and convenience stores.

High visibility

Julius Guevara, Colliers International associate director, valuation and advisory services and head of consultancy and research, said commercial units in buildings in the major CBDs are now typically occupied by banks/financial service companies, convenience stores, personal services and more especially food outlets.

Guevara said: "This is due to the high visibility of commercial spaces from the street level, which is important to any commercial establishment as it draws in foot traffic. Given that ground floor units are rented out at a premium of at least 50 percent versus the upper floors, your typical office tenant would prefer to lease an upper floor unit to save on rental costs, particularly if a ground floor presence is not essential to their business."

He added that if an office building is known to have a low square meter per employee ratio (which basically means a high employee occupancy), which is typical if there is a BPO tenant, then your typical fast-food company would gladly pay a premium for a ground floor space in order to capture that market. This would then displace your other tenant types who cannot afford the same rent premium.

From a developer or building owner's point of view, returns would be higher from fast-food locators since commercial leases with this tenant type usually stipulate a payment of either a minimum predetermined rent or a share of around 5-10 percent of gross sales, whichever is higher. Given the foot traffic and revenue potential, one can see why a building owner would prefer these tenants.


ROBINSONS Cybergate

Proliferation

Claro dG Cordero Jr., Jones Lang LaSalle Leechiu's head of research, consulting and valuation, said the proliferation of food establishments on the ground levels of buildings within CBDs was largely due to the loosening of the restrictions in the past regarding the use of the ground floor space.

"Renting the ground floor space to non-office (i.e., retail establishments) tenants yield higher returns primarily because of higher rents that could be charged. The food establishments are usually preferred due to the presence of variable revenue issues (e.g. percentage of sales) when compared with nonfood establishments. Likewise, the office employees are the natural catchment market for these establishments."

Graveyard shift business

Guevara said BPO companies actually requires the availability of 24-hour services in order to attract and support a steady labor pool. This includes transportation and food services that are readily available during the wee hours of the morning. This is why it is more commonplace to see a McDonald's or Jollibee operating 24/7, especially near BPO facilities. Developers and office building owners also make it a point to have this type of locator in their building, so that their property will be attractive to the BPO operators.

Cordero said the loosening of the restrictions on the use of ground floor space was partly influenced by the need to service the (retail) demand coming from the employees in the BPO industry—the bulk of which go to the office during the graveyard shift and where no shopping centers and malls would be open to serve them.

Guevara said the ability to attract a talented labor pool is essential to the success of a CBD.

Influence of 'Jolli-jeeps'

He said: "Having food establishments conveniently located around places of work facilitates this goal. Furthermore, the availability of affordable food choices is necessary to keep employees satisfied with their place of work. For example, some companies that were considering moving to BGC from Makati have encountered resistance from their employees because of the absence of cheap food services such as 'Jolli-jeeps,' which are readily found within the Makati CBD. So one has to consider that not all employees may be able to afford or even prefer to eat at fast-food type restaurants every day."

Guevara added that he does not see any disadvantage to tenants of the presence of food establishments in a CBD. He stressed that "it is necessary to have a diverse mix of food choices and price points in order to serve all segments of the working community."

Cordero said one major advantage of food restaurant businesses operating in CBDs is the high traffic of customers.

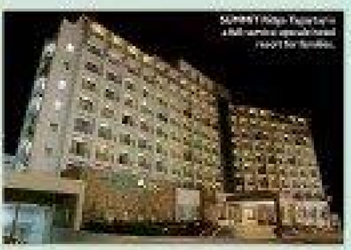
"Another advantage is the longer operating hours (if the shop does not intend to operate for 24 hours), which also means opportunities for additional revenue. This could actually be a disadvantage in the long run, as longer operating hours may take a toll on the profit margins as you need to employ more resources to serve your market. Another disadvantage in operating in CBDs is the level of competition among other establishments. One must be prepared to innovate in order to serve the ever-changing demand of its customers market," Cordero added.

Climate change challenge up at Green Forum



Efficient space planning, low operating costs top preferences of tenants





Homebuilder bats for a 'greener' PH



FROM IDLE LAND TO WORLD-CLASS FACILITY

Integrated development a perfect showcase for tourism





NEWPORT Performing Arts Theater

Too ambitious project







Asia's newest playground

Roster of partners

'Wowed'

The Eight Best Things About GREENHILLS HEIGHTS



Topnotch location.

Guaranteed security.

Family-friendly amenities.

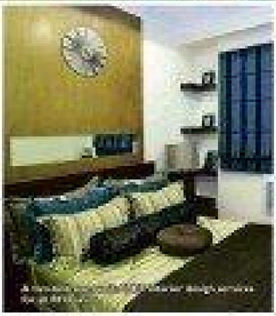
Unmatched privacy.

Excellent natural ventilation.

Private, covered parking lots.

Complete utilities, facilities and services.

Personalized interior design services.







Visit the OPEN HOUSE on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012.

Property

Using modules in designing and building

Design Dimensions



Isabel Berenguer Azancot

THE PRODUCTION of building materials using the English system has not developed much despite the adaptation of the metric system in the aspects of math, science and commerce. Timber lengths, tile sizes, pipe sizes, fabric widths, ceiling tile panels, plywood boards and even door height openings still follow the English units, that when translated to metric, operates on the multiples of 30.5 millimeters—or a "linear foot." Today's units of measure find their roots way back into the ancient Babylonian, Greek, Egyptian and Roman worlds where measures of "cubits," "palms" and "hands" were used in their cultures. Later, these evolved into the Anglo-Saxon and Norman French "inches," "feet," "yards" and "miles." We have the English Empire to thank, as they spread these measures around the world when they conquered and ruled in the 17th century.

As a method to curb waste, many building industry practitioners still consider these modules when establishing dimensions in their designs. In fact, I know a few who actually work with a grid or they lay out a floor plan in order to set up the framework from which the rest of their elements can emanate from. The length of two feet is a common module size for many building materials and systems, with multiples of this expanding onto larger module sizes. The popularity of the foot has been outmoded by the current demand for larger and longer materials and with technology supporting their fabrication. This leads to a commensurate reduction in cost, both in production and handling, and even installation. Best yet, larger sizes also mean less jointing, less lines, and therefore cleaner designs.

I remember when we worked on the Wellness Center at St. Luke's Global City in a healthcare facility, the rooms required wide door openings, enough to be able to move beds and stretchers in and out. For the doors, we wanted them tall too—at 2.4 meters or eight feet—and didn't want to have a single door leaf plus a narrow one like most institutional facilities do. So we managed a single door, eight feet high and four feet wide; large, dramatic and simple, set to a full-sized panel of high-pressure laminate and its plywood backing. No seaming, no wastage. We had large door openings, single-leafed ones that cleanly punctuated the corridors and managed to not appear institutional.

Significant cost savings

Employing modules also cuts down on some significant cost savings. Take for instance a high-rise building making use of large tiles for its hallways: a hallway width that doesn't coincide with the tile sizes would require cutting the tile. Not only is there cost in the wastage of the tile, but there is also added cost for cutting. And not to forget, the hundreds of replacement blades that have to be bought for the tile cutter. Looking at what would be spent per hallway, multiplied by the number of floors for the entire building, what it equates to is waste of manpower and materials.

Cabinetry is best designed in modules as well. Keeping in mind that a plywood panel is four feet by eight feet, 1,220 x 2,440 millimeters, partitioning compartments at equal segments derived from the panel dimensions will maximize the panel—and your money. Bathrooms designed on grid dodge the same fate when not dimensioned to fit the module—tiles have to be cut and excess pieces rendered unusable, just like those cut tiles. Oh and lest I forget to mention: it's a double whammy when you consider breakage during cutting.

Practical, sustainable

Recently, some suppliers or manufacturers have produced sizes with dimensions adapted from standard and [illegible] dimensions relating to [illegible] proportions. Granite slabs, for example, are cut into widths of two feet or 600 millimeters—the industry standard for a lavatory counter or kitchen work top depth. Glass panels are manufactured in six or seven-foot lengths to suit glass door heights.

The thing about designing around a module is that it is practical in terms of costs, and sustainable in terms of materials. It's good to do some research on what is available in the market, and the manner by which it is produced and sold. But don't gridlock your creativity by strictly designing by module—a healthy dose of its application into various design elements would be a more practical approach.

Contact the author through designdimensions@inquirer.com.ph or through the Azancot-Berenguer facebook account.



DEMAND for office space may overtake supply in three years unless more projects are launched within the next year.

Efficient space planning, low operating costs top preferences of tenants

WITH THE SUSTAINED annual demand for office space in Metro Manila expected to register at 400,000 square meters by 2014 or more from an annual average demand of 360,000 sq m in 2011, developers in the market have never been busier.

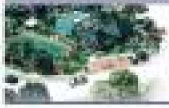
Aside from the established real estate developers, new players are expected to fill demand with office property located in each of the 10 new business districts now emerging in the metropolis. Studies by real estate service firm Jones Lang LaSalle Leechiu indicate that the take-up rates of these new office projects are likely to vary widely with a selection pre-leased by top corporations even before the building is completed, and others left with unpredictable space months or years after the building is ready for occupancy.

[illegible], national director for markets for JLL, explains that prospective tenants/occupiers are focused on getting the best value on their leases. She says, "The efficiency ratio of an office space, or a high percentage of usable space is very important to an occupier. The higher the space efficiency, the better it is for the occupier whose rent is based on gross floor area." She adds that low operating costs are likewise a priority.

Between 2012 and 2015, approximately one million sq m of office space is expected to be constructed in Metro Manila or a record 55 percent more than the current office stock of 1.8 million sq m. Still, demand may overtake supply in three years unless more projects are launched within the next year. For potential lessors to take advantage of the strong demand situation, achieve the best lease rates and attract top multinational tenants, JLL experts advise developers

[illegible] B2-2

PROPERTY



ENLIGHTENED LUXURY

Boutique developer shows true essence of being green

The real benchmark for green devt's should be the ability to create a better quality of life



All eyes on the SM Mall of Asia Arena



SM Mall of Asia Arena can accommodate a seating capacity of 15,000 with a full-house capacity of 20,000.



THE DISTINCTIVE eye-shaped façade symbolizes the MOA Arena's promise of delivering topnotch entertainment.

Eye-shaped façade

State-of-the-art venue

Safety requirements

Boutique developer shows true . . .

From page B1



Real benchmark

Luxurious experience



THE STRATFORD Residences' meditation garden

From IT . . .

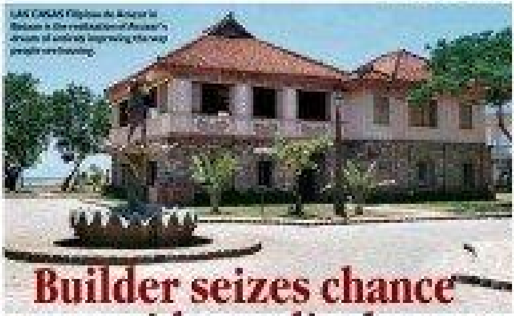
From page B1

Mañosa Properties sets new heights of luxury, sustainability with Ylang Lane

Premium market

Security





LAS CASAS Filipinas de Acuzar in Bataan is the realization of Acuzar's dream of not only improving the way people are housing.



FORT VICTORIA TOPPING-OFF From left: NSJBI engineer Joselito Pardo; Jaime Del Barrio Jr., president of Allied Savings Bank; Justin Zapata, sales head of Fort Victoria; Eric Chiu Escudero; NSJBI Chair Jose L. Acuzar; NSJBI Co-Chair Dominga del Carmen; NSJBI engineer Eric Luna; and Kim Calimlim, sales head of Metro Sales.

Builder seizes chance to provide quality homes

By Thomas R. Santamaria

DEVELOPER'S TALES

IT IS one inspiring tale that has the underpinnings of nobility and humble beginnings.

Besides from New San Jose Builders Inc., [illegible] St. Joseph the Carpenter, the patron saint. It was started, [illegible] began as a construction company that served the needs of the government.

"We started as a construction company in 1982 as a sole proprietorship and it was in 1985 that we became a corporation. During that time, we had the opportunity to work on various government projects," recalled NSJBI Chair Jose L. Acuzar.

As a construction contractor, NSJBI was tasked to develop a number of projects for the National Housing Authority in Bagong Silang, Caloocan and its adjoining areas [illegible] City.

It was in 1998 that the company decided to expand and venture into real estate development. From initially creating projects catered to [illegible] government employees, NSJBI has since diversified, making available and affordable its projects to more hard-working Filipinos.

"We had housing developments and government construction projects. Our first one was in 1988 which we did the [illegible] housing project in [illegible]. Also then in 1992, we completed the development of the 3,000 hectare Katarungan Village 1 and 2 in Muntinlupa City," Acuzar related.

Eventually, the company decided to fully concentrate on property projects, bringing with it its construction expertise into every project it undertakes.

Quality don't at lower cost

"We subcontracted on and moved to property development because we don't want to waste the opportunity to provide people quality developments but at a much lower cost," Acuzar said.

"We have that opportunity to lower the cost compared to other developers. We also knew that we could provide homes at a much lower cost because we are a contractor developer company which helped us improve our knowledge in construction," he explained.

Success did not come overnight for NSJBI, according to Acuzar, who stressed that he and his team needed to work hard to gain the recognition and trust of the public. It did not help that the Philippine real estate sector took a dive during the Asian crisis in the '90s, that even threw some properties firms out of business.

"The challenge there was whether or not the people would be willing to invest on our developments and see the value of our projects," Acuzar noted.

Upper hand

Since NSJBI has its own construction arm, the company had the upper hand in terms of control over quality and speed of construction. Most importantly, it was able to maintain price markups—something that eventually became its edge in earning its name in the local scene.

"We do our own design, planning, construction and sales and marketing and thus, everything is conceptualized, developed, built, finished and sold under the auspices of our company," Acuzar explained.

Over the past two decades, NSJBI has developed a robust portfolio of projects that included service and recreational facilities, transport infrastructure, sustainable townships and prime residential condominiums. It can now boast of 10 residential developments and one horizontal project, each of which has its own unique strengths to build on.

"Our projects are comparable and at par with the other high-end projects available in the market. Take for instance Fort Victoria, which is located in the bustling area of Bonifacio Global City and yet we are able to sell it at a really affordable price," Acuzar claimed.



FORT Victoria, a union of style, form and function that's expected of modern city living.

Millionaires' row

Fort Victoria will rise in the so-called millionaires' row of the Bonifacio Global City (BGC)—which is near the Makati central business district and other places of interests such as schools, malls, hospitals and offices.

An iconic structure of three adjacent towers, Fort Victoria evokes a style, form and function that is expected of modern city living. Amid fresh air, plush features and amenities for high-rise living, future residents will also enjoy the spectacular and refreshing view of the entire Global City and the Manila Golf.

The 40-story condominium will have for its Tower A 32 levels of residential floors with loft including the penthouse, while Towers B and C will have 29 levels of residential floors with loft including the penthouse.

"We are doing all this to help address the housing backlog. We are going to grow as a company and we look forward to building more townships and creating another landmark," Acuzar concluded.



PROPERTY



From IT education to iconic structures



AGUILUZ believes that hard work, integrity and honesty are the main ingredients to success.

THE STRATFORD Residences' day care center and children's playground.

By Theresa S. Samaniego

BUILDERS AND MOVERS

AMB. AMABLE R. Aguiluz V once made his indelible mark in Philippine history when he pioneered the IT education in the country.

This time, however, the country's father of Computer Education is taking his pioneering streak to a different field where he is poised to make waves and create a ripple that will definitely be felt among buyers who have an eye for iconic and premium quality structures.

Through Picar Development Inc., the real estate development arm of The AMA Group of Companies, Aguiluz is embarking on a [illegible]

Fast Facts

AMB. AMABLE R. Aguiluz V built the AMA Education System to a P6-billion conglomerate with 200 schools and 150,000 students from its humble beginning of 15 students. He has also started conquering China, United States and Middle East.

Aguiluz has been the recipient of numerous honors which include the Medallion of Bahrain, the President's Medal of Merit, [illegible] Business Award and the Agora Award.

At present, he is also serving as the President's Special Envoy to the Gulf Cooperation Council.

Ambassador Aguiluz is a Business Administration graduate from the University of the Philippines, received his Doctorate in Business Administration from Columbia College, Missouri, USA. He has also successfully completed the Top Management Program at Bali, Indonesia and Business Management Program at Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania and the Owner and President Management Program of the Harvard University.

P6-billion investment over the next 10 years in various real estate projects. The company's flagship project is the Picar Place in Makati, which will house The Stratford Residences.

Although technically a relatively newcomer in the local property scene, Aguiluz points out that he has been in real estate since 1980, when he started the education business. The "blue-blooded entrepreneur" has built the AMA Education System to a P6-billion conglomerate with 200 schools and 150,000 students from its humble beginning of 15 students.

"Real estate is a component of every school that I built, which was heavy on bricks and mortar. Learning the construction part and cashing in on the appreciation of real estate are also part of the business," Aguiluz explains.

"I have dreams of building an empire. As an entrepreneur I smell opportunities. Since I am already in the real estate business from the inception of my first school, building homes and tall buildings were already part of my agenda," he further reveals.

Anticipating his eventual full-blown involvement in real estate development, land banking became part of Aguiluz's agenda—like the 16-hectare property in Cavite that he acquired in 1991.

But it would only be in 2007, when he established Picar Development Inc. that Aguiluz would begin a more aggressive thrust toward real estate development. But even for a hailed and seasoned entrepreneur like him, the beginnings were fraught with difficulties.

"Building credibility being a newcomer, is the biggest obstacle. We solved it by building first and sell later. On our third project, the Chelsea Residences in Alabang, we are now just like the other big developers who start building only after 50 percent had been sold," Aguiluz says.

What helped Aguiluz come through was his late father Amable M. Aguiluz Sr., who was his "idol, mentor and inspiration."

"He believed that hard work, integrity and honesty are the main ingredients to success. He dreams of becoming another great statesman but he was an erudite [illegible] and he became one," he notes. Thus, Aguiluz ensured that he stands on the same principles that his late father believed in: honesty, integrity and hard work. Being an early bird, he adds, is also one factor as everything starts at 7:30 a.m.

"As a boss, I think I am very hands-on. I pay attention to the details and travel to be with my team. I always begin attendance to them. Honesty in work is an absolute must," he further says.

At present, the real estate firm's flagship project, the P11-billion "Picar Place" on Kalayaan Avenue in Makati City, is envisioned to be Makati's premier address for luxurious living and global hospitality.

Nestled within this exclusive enclave will be the three-tower, 74-storey The Stratford Residences, the tallest residential building in Makati, the P500 million Buddha Bar Manila, the biggest establishment of the world's [illegible]

PROPERTY B3-5

ROADTALK Saturday



Hop On, Hop Off: Explore BGC on board a comfy bus



Explore BGC on board a comfy bus

What to learn from BGC's Hop on, Hop Off Bus Tour



TOUR guide for the special media tour was Carlos Celdran



BUS hop stop



RUNNERS taking a break at Track 30



INSTALLATION inside the offsite gallery



INSTALLATION outside the Mind Museum

Shell launches new generation of performance fuels in Cebu



Kizashi topbills Suzuki presentation of latest product line at the 4th PIMS



It's fun to run (and drift) in the Philippines

Hyundai launches the New Genesis Coupe at the Lateral D Championship at Quirino Grandstand today

[illegible]





Hyundai launches the New Genesis at Quirino Grandstand

[illegible]



Ford reveals stylish new Fiesta

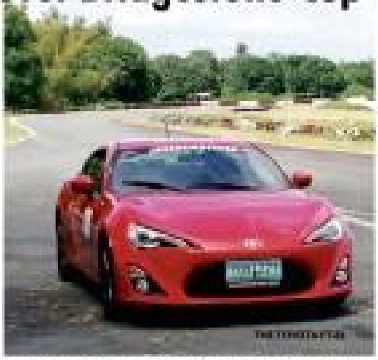
Advanced technology includes SYNC and 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine

[illegible]



It's all about the tires at the first ever Bridgestone Cup

[illegible]





The Professional's Choice

The Isuzu DMAX 4x4 LT is a favorite workhorse for contractors, developers, architects and engineers

[illegible]

















Super LifeStyle

Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan   Consultant Editor: Pam Pastor





Christina Aguilera lets fans of 'The Voice' in on Season 3

The pop star dishes on her hit talent show, her new album and the changes this new season will bring

By Pam Pastor

ARE YOU ready for Round 3? We are. We've been missing those spinning chairs.

Emmy-nominated "The Voice" returns with a new season this month. Soon, you will be seeing host Carson Daly and coaches Adam Levine, Christina Aguilera, Blake Shelton and Cee Lo Green back on your TV screen for an even bigger dose of standout talent and intense competition.

In this e-mail interview with Super, Christina Aguilera dishes on her hit talent show, her new album and the changes this new season will bring.

What do you love about being on "The Voice"?

I am really drawn to the concept behind the show. We are here to help talent learn and grow. The show celebrates just the voice and the talent behind it and I feel it is a positive and uplifting experience for us all.

There are a number of other talent shows on TV—why do you think your show is such a huge hit?

"The Voice" is really judging people based only on their voice and it was a concept I hadn't seen before. It also presents the chance for us to lift up new talent rather than tear them down. I knew I wanted to be part of something so positive. Our concepts and format are different so I can vouch for us all. We are a very different show.

What can fans expect from this new season?

This season will NOT disappoint. Here the blind auditions will be longer, teams will be bigger AND we have added the surprise of a steal, so coaches can take a member from another team that gets kicked out in battle. And the performances are going to be amazing. We have an opening coach's performance AND I will debut my new single, "Your Body" on the show.


ADAM Levine


BLAKE Shelton


CHRISTINA Aguilera


CEE LO Green


"THE VOICE" will soon be back in another season of intense musical competition.

What's it like working with Cee Lo Green, Blake Shelton and Adam Levine? How has your relationship with them changed over the seasons?

They are like the brothers that I have always wanted. We are a big family and we have really grown close over the seasons. I have so much respect for all three of them.

How do you feel about the format changes for Season 3?

It's a great idea that keeps the show fresh and also keeps us coaches on our feet. Now with the steals we have to know our team and all three other teams as well so we can be strategic.

Do you think being allowed to steal contestants will have an impact on your coaching/judging style?

Absolutely. It really requires us to know not only our teams but everyone else's as well, which changes the dynamic. It is going to be a lot of fun.

You'll be working with Billie Joe Armstrong this season—how do you feel about that? You and Billie have different musical styles, do you think that would be beneficial to the show and the contestants?

I am so excited to be working with Billy Joe. He made me laugh for hours and brought such positive energy to the set. It's also a great mix as his style is so different than mine and it allows the team to learn from so many perspectives. We are lucky to have him as a member of "Team Xtina."

You're working on a new album now—how's it going? When can we expect to hear it?

The new album is almost done and I am so excited to share it with fans. My new single, "Your Body," will premiere on "The Voice" this season. A lot of the album is light and fun. Great dance and pop tracks. Others are really raw and intimate. I am so excited for the album.

How do you feel about the "Sesame Street" spoof of "The Voice"?

I love it. When I saw it I couldn't stop laughing. I even tweeted. My son loves the show and I told him now mommy really made it.

"The Voice" Season 3 premieres on AXN on Sept. 16. Watch it every Sunday at 8 p.m.



Discover your p

Let the Hop On, Hop



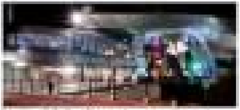




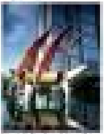


passion at BGC

Off bus tour guide you













The day the music died

If we value our music so much, why are we charging only P150 for a show with five bands?

Here come the Brits

British acts The Wanted, Keane and James Morrison to kickstart the hot and heavy 'ber' months



MANILA'S MOST "WANTED"

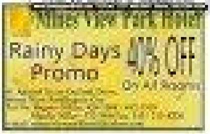
Say hello to Tom, Nathan, Jay, Max and Siva in two weeks.

The 'American Idol' tour is ready for Manila



Catch Maroon 5 live in Manila!





LIFESTYLE Travel



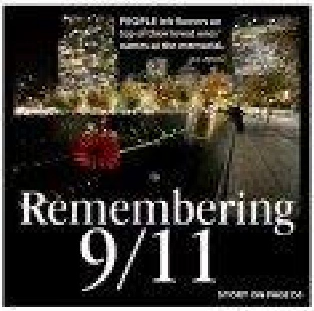
Cobonpue sees creative Colombia

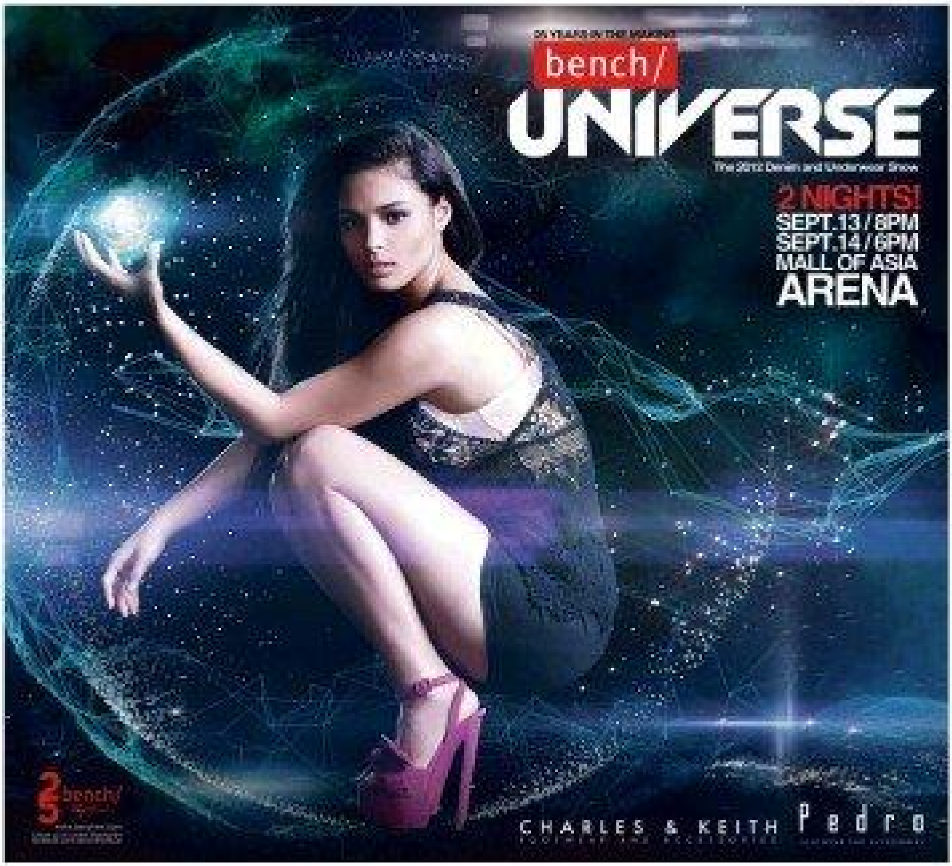
By Margie C. Enriquez

The only Asian designer at the prestrigious Colombia Moda in Medellin, he marveled at how architecture had transformed the city's image

"MAYBE the last place you'd expect to find a Filipino would be in Medellin," said American TV anchor Brian Andrews. He interviewed Cebuano furniture designer Kenneth Cobonpue (accent on the second syllable) at the recent Colombia Moda, the most important fashion event in Latin America.

[illegible]





Cobonpue sees creative Colombia











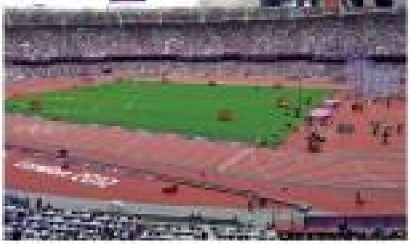


Dramatic progress

Best views

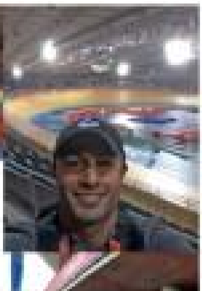








Derek's Olympic moments







Useful items for smart travel





South Cotabato sings ode to the 't'nalak'

The T'boli weave is a cultural heritage and a fashion statement



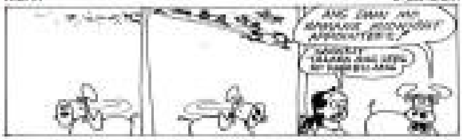
Lang Dulay





GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



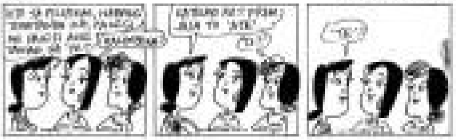


PUGAD BABOY — BY PM JUNIOR



DICK TRACY — BY JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



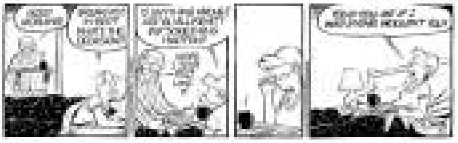


BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT





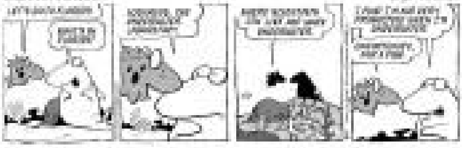
BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON



MUTTS — BY PATRICK MCDONNELL



SHERMAN'S LAGOON — BY JIM TOOMEY



DUSTIN — BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER





CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

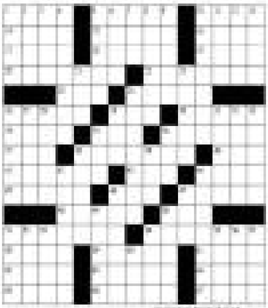
Conceptis Sudoku

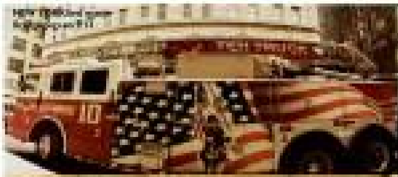
			2		7	6		
9		4	3		8			
							3	9
		2					7	
		1				8		
	4					2		
3	1							
			7		2	9		8
		8	6		5			

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

DOWN







THE E train to World Trade Center



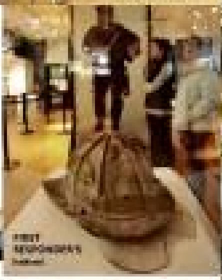




UNDER CONSTRUCTION: The Freedom Tower

Remembering 9/11

Visiting the memorial to the Twin Towers attacks was a beautiful and incredibly sad experience



FIRST RESPONDER'S helmet



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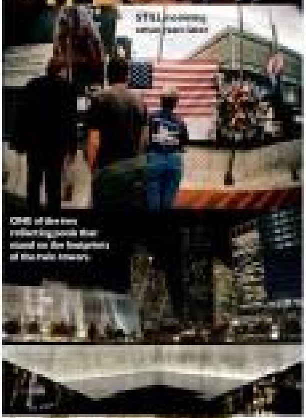
Ground zero

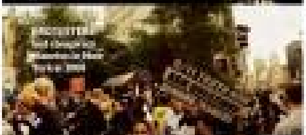
[illegible]

'Reflecting Absence'

[illegible]











Chaos and silence

[illegible]

Searching

[illegible]

Staycation package at the Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila

WHAT'S UP

AT HYATT Hotel and Casino Manila, there's no need to rush when spending time with family.

Available until Oct. 31, the "Early Eight, Late Eight" room package is available to local residents offering an early check-in time of 8 a.m., and late checkout time of 8 p.m. the next day.

[illegible]

Unparalleled attractions at Resorts World Manila

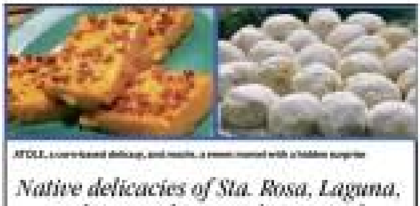
[illegible]

TripAdvisor awards Discovery Hotels with certificates of excellence

[illegible]

It's more fun to shoot with George Tapan

[illegible]



[illegible]

Native delicacies of Sta. Rosa, Laguna, to be served in Baraka Festival

MACHE, Pandi Grade One, Kalamay Kubo, Puto Lanson, Puto Maya—these are some of the kakanin (delicacies) that are homegrown to the City of Santa Rosa, Laguna, that will be featured in the Baraka Festival 2012 in SM Santa Rosa, Sept. 7-9.

[illegible]

Super LifeStyle



Growing up Gracie

WORKING in the family business is an odd proposition when your last name is Gracie. Instead of busing tables or pushing paper, the career trajectory involves breaking limbs and trading punches inside an eight-sided chain link cage.

Family ties



A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

Where to Stop Where to Go

TOURS Leisure & CHOW

Best Western creates super hotel in Manila

Century Park celebrates its 36th year

Diamond Hotel brings back late night weekend buffet

Sample chef's exclusives at Richmonde Café

St. Francis Suites revolutionizes city living

Somerset Millennium: weekend home in the city

When in Davao, stay at Home Crest

TRMH-VMO is Kadayawan champ

Discover the Tree of Life with amazing foods

Batangueño dishes with a twist at Café Corona

[illegible]

Mooncakes and discounts at Crowne Plaza

[illegible]

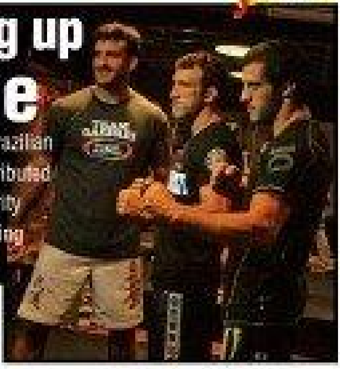
Marriott Cafe sizzles with new *teppanyaki* station

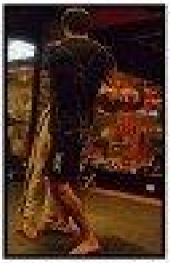
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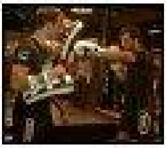
For inquiries or reservations, call Marriott Café at 988-9999.

Growing up Gracie

Meet the Scottish-Brazilian family that has contributed to the global popularity of the Ultimate Fighting Championships







The Gracie family is not dead

'Ang Nawawala' goes big time

The indie movie will finally be shown in commercial theaters Sept. 12



Familiar soundtrack





Serial murders she wrote

Fil-Canadian thriller author Jennifer Hillier talks serial killers, sex addicts and quitting '50 Shades of Grey'



Editor Nestor U. Torre • Assistant Editor Rito P. Asilo

SATURDAY Special



Zac Efron bites into edgier roles

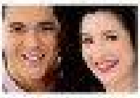


By Rito P. Asilo



Christmas in September

by Nestor U. Torre



Christmas...

'Favored' bets continue to survive



Spiritual vision

Lotus Pond
R. Valencia and S. Bismark

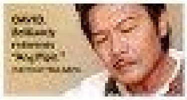
A GREAT sage once advised his students, "You must develop spiritual vision to see what matters most in your journey through life. After all, as your body ages, ... eyes ... ears. Thus, you must have a deeper sense of perception that allows you to see things as they are."

Imperfections

The movies they're making



Mon David dazzles in latest album



Only IN Hollywood



Downloads

Sarah G prays for change in 'Pure'



FANS' DAY

Waiting for Lolita and Marlene



Variations

Contentious debates continue

Preference

Bam endorses HaPinoy program

New generation

Street Smart





'The Comic Divas'

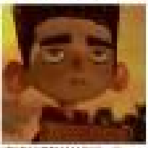
Musical trip down memory lane



Applause

NOW SHOWING

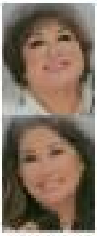
Zombie tale pulls pleasant surprises



Mission

'The Comic Divas' at Resorts World

MONTAGE



At Super Bowl of China

'Best Anime 2012'

New calcium supplement

Never the Strangers

'Strike Back'

Movies on TV

Moms and kids agree: Jollitown presents fun lessons on Filipino values, culture





Mon David...